ADVANCED BLUES PIANO
BLUES IN THE KEY OF G

TRANSPOSE - TRANSPOSE - TRANSPOSE

So far, we've looked at Blues in the key of C.

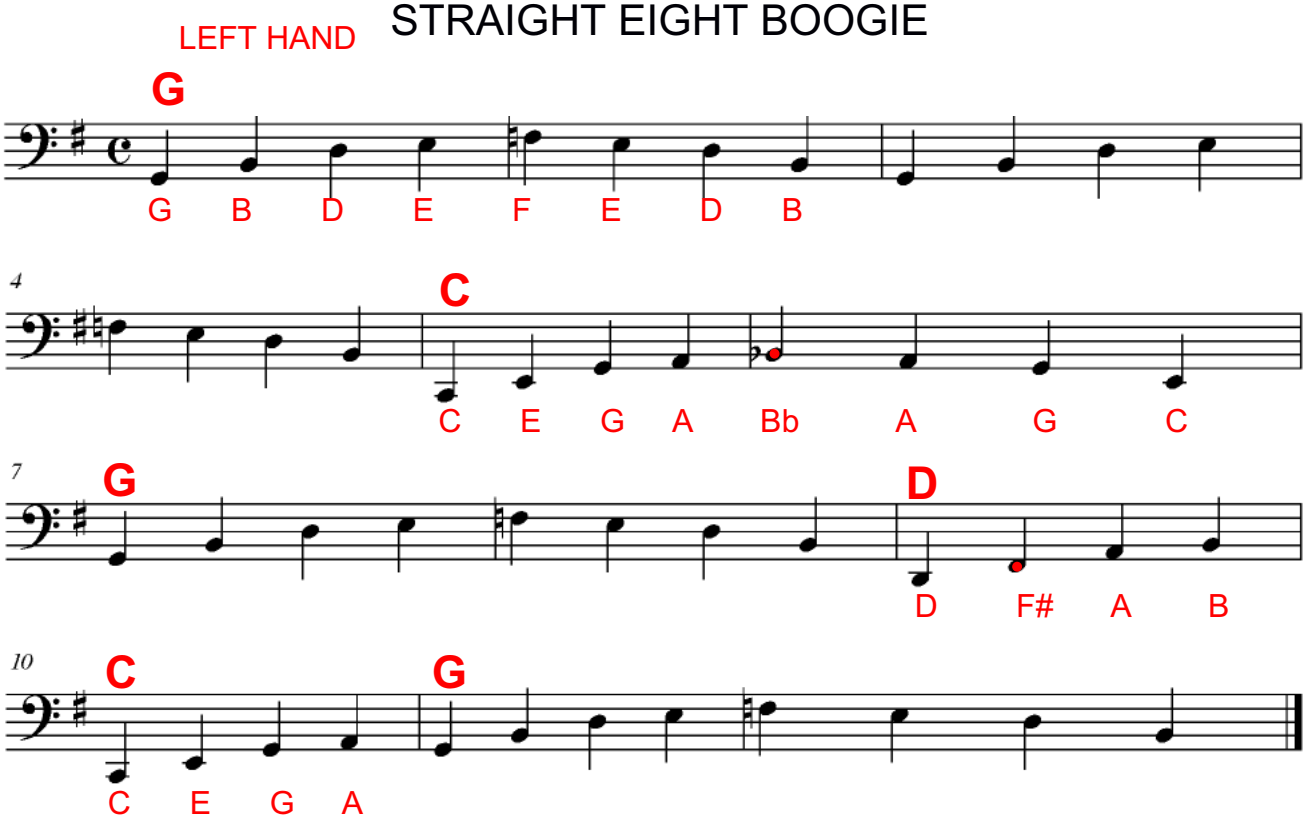
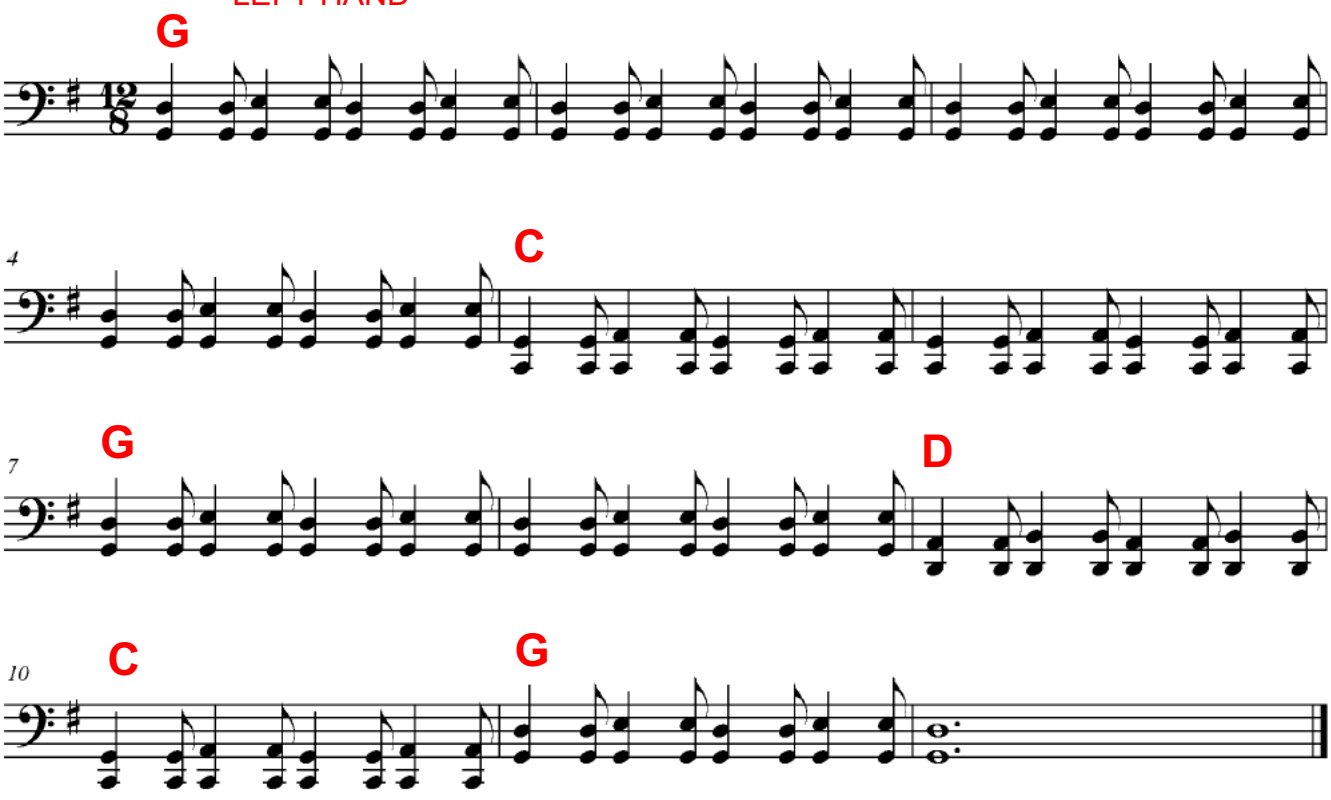
It's GREAT practice to TRANSPOSE all the exercises into as many different keys as possible - particularly F, G, and Bb

If a Blues tune in the key of C doesn't fit your vocal range then the next easiest key to try is G.

Over the next few pages I will give you some guidelines for the key of G but it's even better practice if you can transpose everything you have learned so far into the key of G by figuring it out for yourself

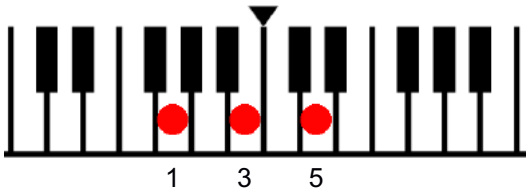
SEE VIDEO page 41

ADVANCED BLUES PIANO
LEFT HAND PATTERNS FOR THE KEY OF G

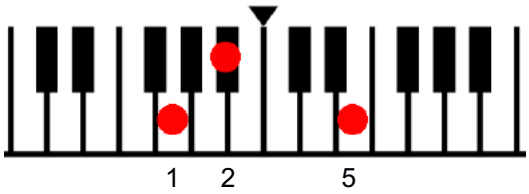
STRAIGHT EIGHT BOOGIE

12/8 SHUFFLE

ADVANCED BLUES PIANO

RIGHT HAND CHORDS FOR THE KEY OF G

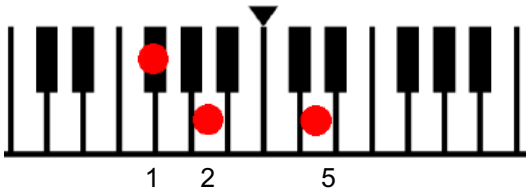
BASIC CHORDS



G

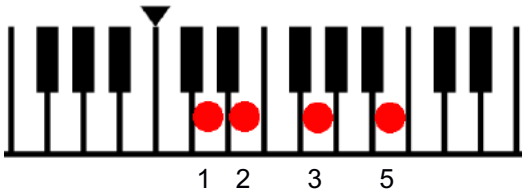


C7 (Middle - no root)

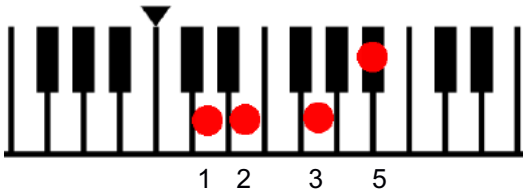


D7 (backwards)

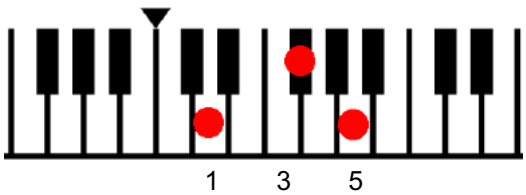
ADVANCED CHORDS



G6 (middle)



C79 (no root)



D

ADVANCED BLUES PIANO
THE G BLUES SCALE (RIGHT HAND)

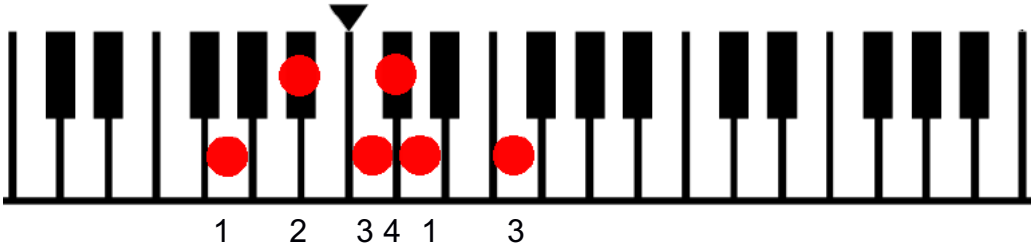
Remember how to construct a BLUES SCALE

Use the 4 notes of the MINOR SEVENTH (In Gm7 they are G - Bb - D - F)

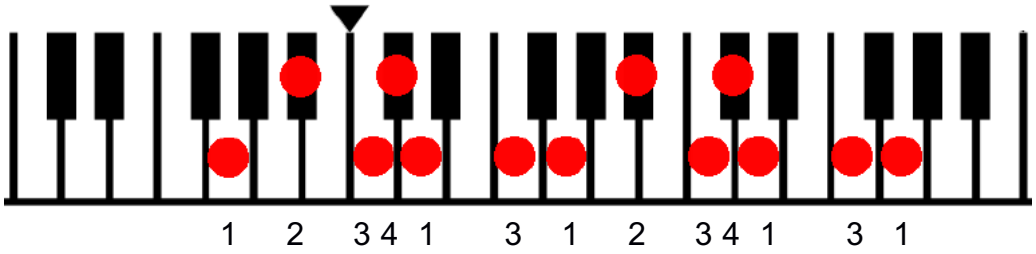
And add the 4th and the flattened 5th (In G these are C - Db)

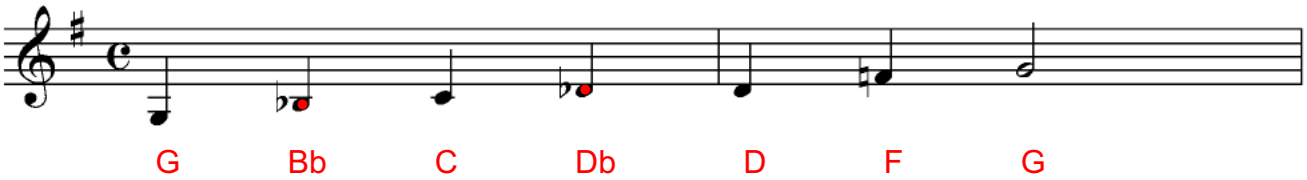
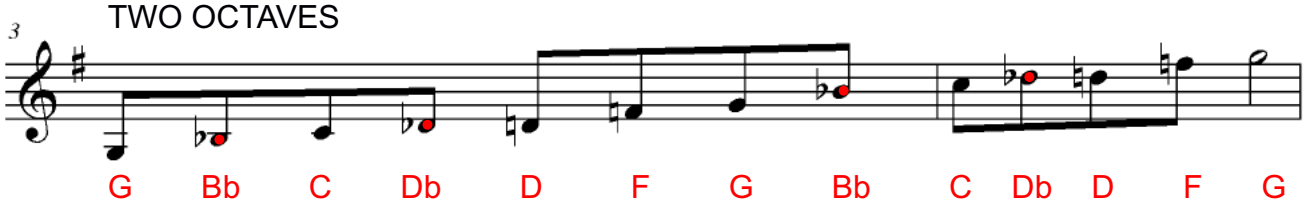
THE G BLUES SCALE

ONE OCTAVE



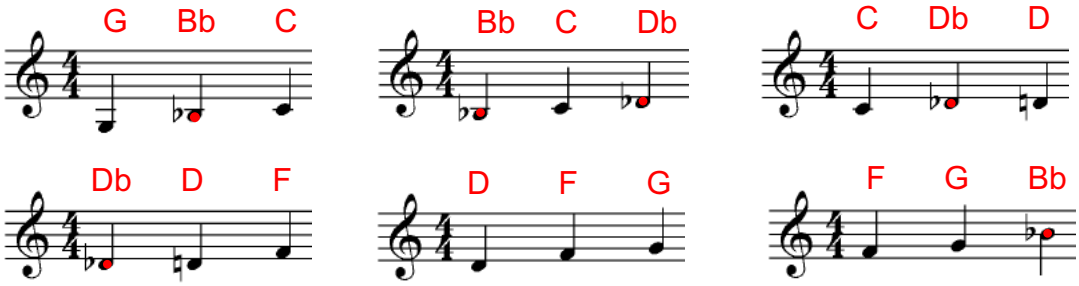
TWO OCTAVES

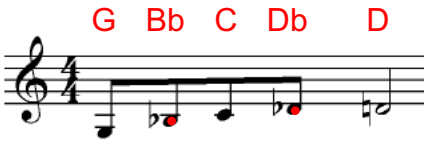
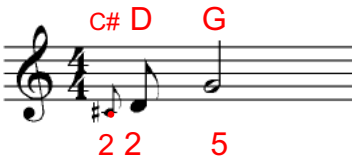


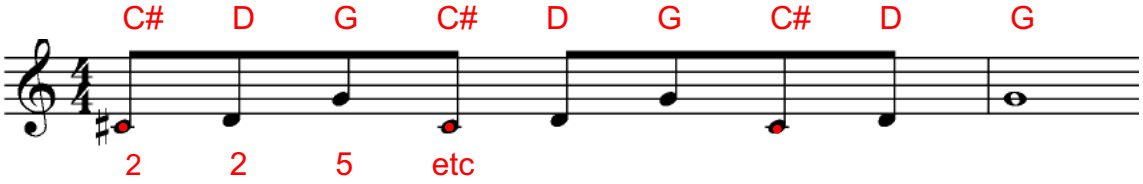
ONE OCTAVE

TWO OCTAVES

G BLUES SCALE RIFFS TO PRACTICE WITH

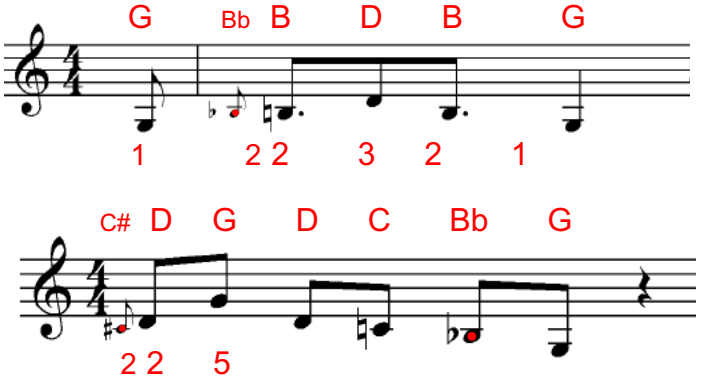
(Practice these higher up the keys as well)

These three note patterns are taken from the BLUES SCALE - experiment with them



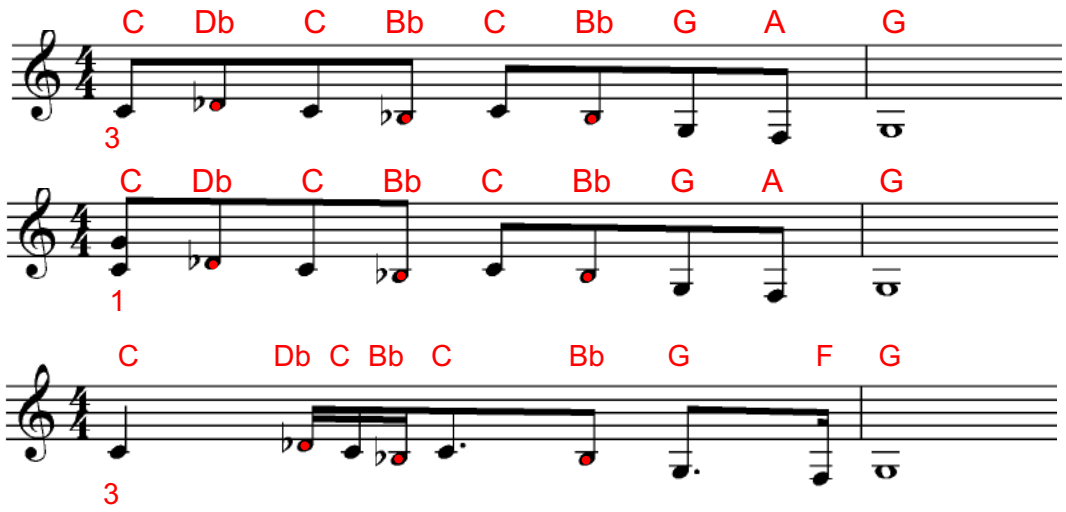
This is a five finger position for the scale

This is called a ‘SLIDE’ - very often you *slide* onto the white key from the flat of the key

This sounds similar but stretches the sound out. Variety is good
Notice that the sharp # in front of the first C makes them ALL sharp in that bar.



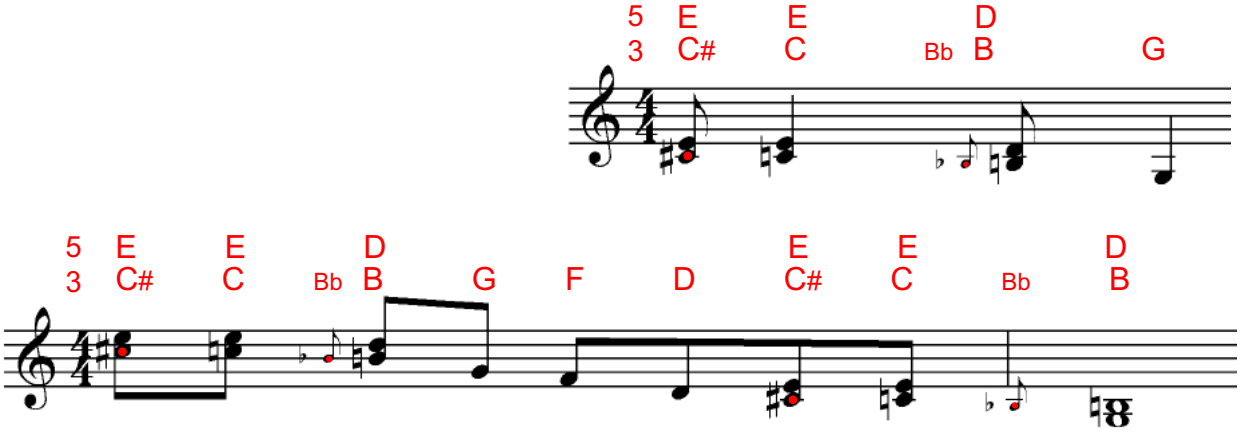
I call this the ‘Bonnie & Clyde’ Riff. It always reminds me of the song.

G BLUES SCALE RIFFS TO PRACTICE WITH

(Practice these higher up the keys as well)

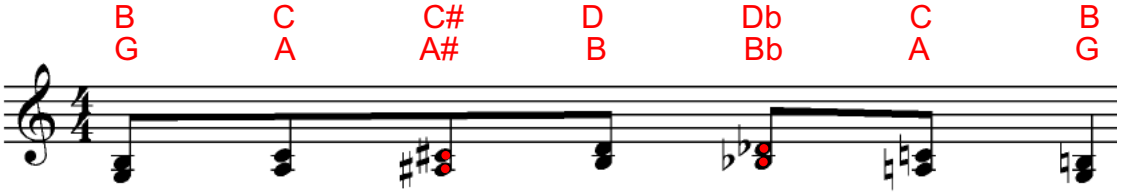
The following 3 patterns are nearly the same. The second riff has just got an added G note on TOP of the first note. This is a common blues trick. In the third riff the 2no to 5th notes are played very quickly which is a riff in itself. LISTEN to the recording!

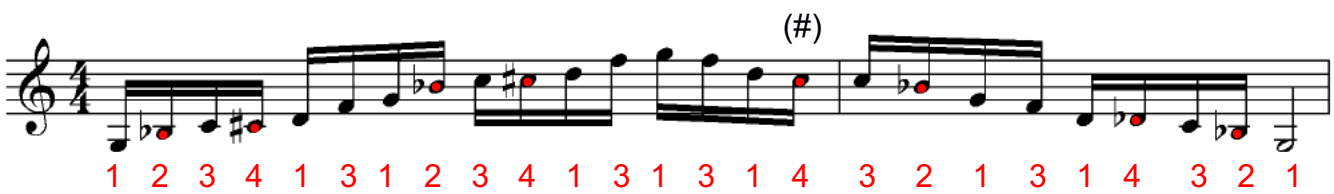


Blues riffs very often use ‘double’ notes - this gives an extra ‘ring’ and you often SLIDE on to the notes from a flat note.

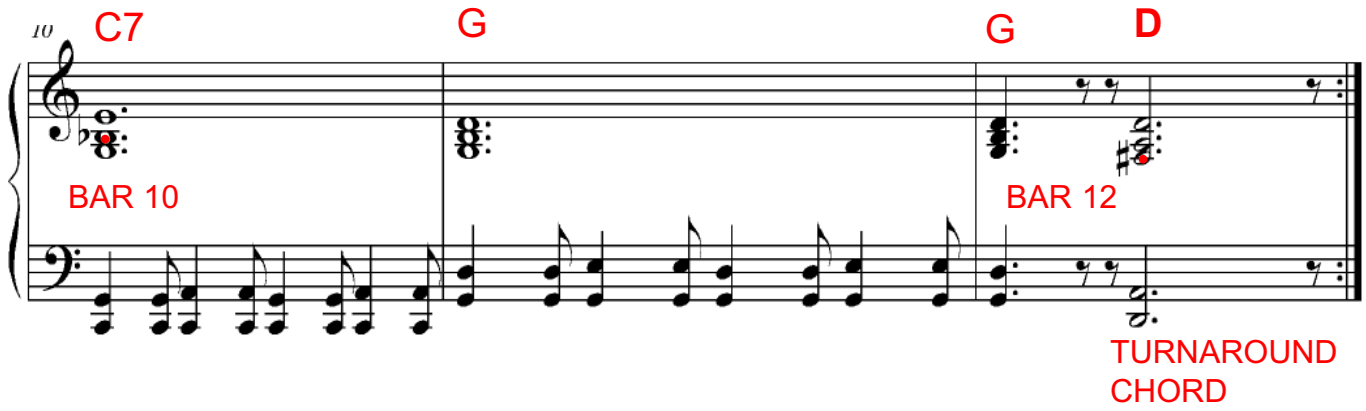


You will have heard the following riff a million times. Try transposing it to C and D for better effect.

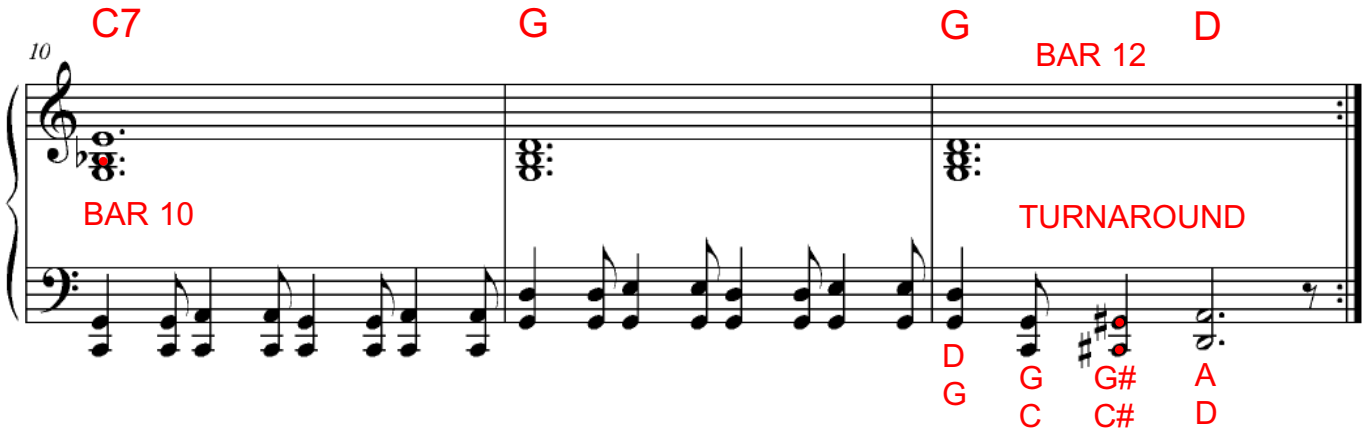


This is the BLUES SCALE over two octaves up and down.
The trick is getting the fingering right. Sounds great though doesn’t it?

ADVANCED BLUES PIANO
TURNAROUNDS
(In the key of G)

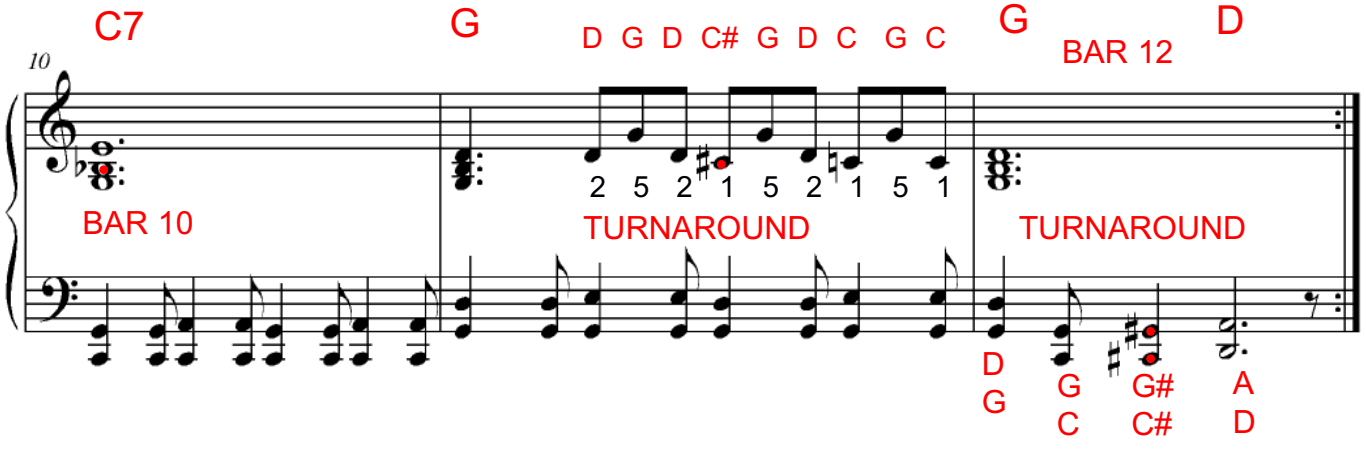
BASIC TURNAROUND



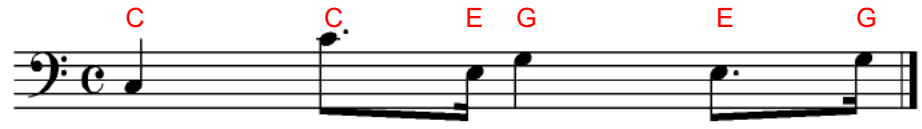
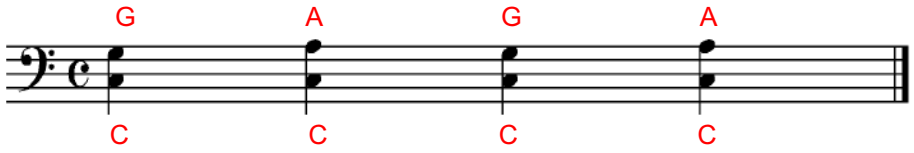
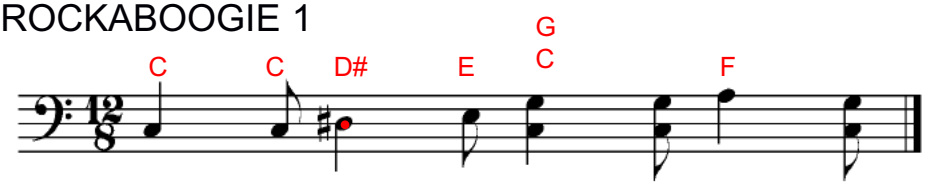
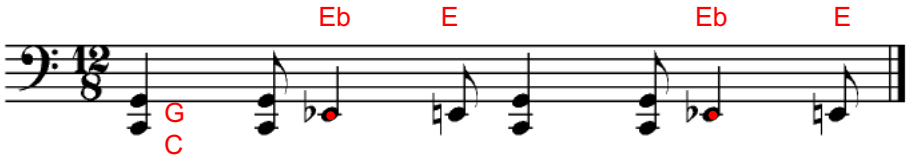
LEFT HAND TURNAROUND

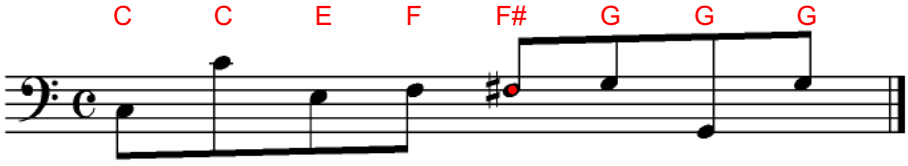


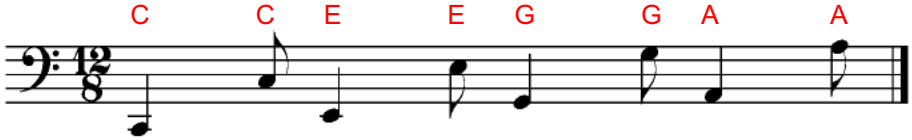
TWO HANDS TURNAROUND



EXTRA LEFT HAND RHYTHMS
(one bar in the key of C - Transpose to all keys)

NEW ORLEANS (Like Blueberry Hill Rhythm with an added C note on top)

BARRELHOUSE

ROCKABOOGIE 1

ROCKABOOGIE 2

BOOGIE WOOGIE



BROKEN OCTAVES

ADVANCED BLUES PIANO
TAKING IT FURTHER

Hopefully, you will now have a feeling for playing Blues Piano.

Obviously there is an infinite amount left to learn.

Keep transposing all you have learned into as many other keys as possible.

Buy more books on Blues Piano - listen to CD's - pick out the ryhthms and the riffs.

Start adding all the various elements together - have fun - experiment - make mistakes - sing along - practice, practice, practice.

I hope you enjoyed the journey!